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EDITORIAL.

Never has a vacation been more delightful to our students than the one just closed. No doubt all feel very thankful to Governor Russell for appointing April 7 as Fast Day, since it added twenty-four hours to our period of rest. The two weeks have passed with almost a cloudless sky, and with a temperature more characteristic of June than of April. The balmy days have afforded opportunity for out-door life and to shake hands with "gentle spring," experiences which tend to strengthen both mind and body, and put them in tune for the labor of the closing term of the year.

The tennis courts are already in good condition, and all should join heartily in this charming exercise, which seems to be the only sport to which our grounds are suited.

We feel like dedicating this number of our paper to our alumni, who, while they

are receiving the greetings of old school-mates and renewing the memories of "L. A.," will no doubt be glad to be reminded of the literary efforts of their Academy days, and also to become possessors of the engraving and biography of one of the noblest and most scholarly of men and one whom Lawrence Academy and the world delight to honor.

DR. SAMUEL A. GREEN.

Samuel Abbott Green is a son of Dr. Joshua and Eliza (Lawrence) Green, and was born at Groton, Middlesex County, Mass., March 16, 1830. He obtained his early education at Lawrence Academy, Groton, graduated at Harvard College in the class of 1851, and received his medical degree three years later, after which he spent several years in Europe. On his return he began practice in Boston and became one of the district physicians for the city dispensary, where he served from 1858 to 1861. On May 19, 1858, he was appointed by Gov. Banks, surgeon of the 2d militia regiment. At the beginning of the civil war, he was commissioned assistant surgeon of the 1st Massachusetts Regiment of Volunteers, and was the first medical officer from the state mustered in for three years' service. He was promoted to the surgeoncy of the 24th Massachusetts Regiment on Sept. 2, 1861, where he remained until Nov. 2, 1864, serving at different times during this period on the staff of various general officers. He had charge of the hospital ship "Recruit" of the Burnside Expedition to Roanoke Island, organized by him, and which sailed



from Annapolis in January, 1862. He had charge also of the hospital steamer, "Cosmopolitan" on the coast of South Carolina and during the siege of Fort Wagner was chief medical officer on Morris Island. In October, 1863, he was sent to Florida and was post surgeon at St. Augustine and Jacksonville; thence he was sent to Virginia and was with the army when Bermuda Hundred was taken. Having been appointed acting staff surgeon, he was stationed at Richmond for three months after the fall of that city. "For gallant and distinguished services in the field during the campaign of 1864," he was brevetted lieutenant-colonel of Volunteers. In February, 1862, he planned a cemetery on Roanoke Island, which was one of the first regular burial places laid out for national soldiers during the Rebellion. After the war Dr. Green was superintendent of the Boston Dispensary from 1865 to 1872; a member of the Boston School Board, 1860-62 and 1866-72; trustee of the Boston Public Library, 1868-78, and acting librarian from October, 1877, to October, 1878. For more than twenty years he has been an overseer of Harvard College.

Dr. Green has always taken a deep interest in Lawrence Academy, Groton. For more than twenty-five years he has been a member of the Board of Trustees, and for a number of years he was president of the Board. In December, 1868, he was made chairman of the committee to solicit aid in rebuilding the Academy, and in 1883 he presided at the 90th anniversary of the Academy.

In 1870, Gov. Claflin appointed him one of a commission to care for disabled soldiers. In 1871 he became city physician of Boston and held the office till 1882. He was chosen a member of the board of experts authorized by Congress in 1878 to investigate the causes and methods of preventing the yellow fever. In 1881, as the

candidate of the Citizens' party and the Republicans, he was elected mayor of the city of Boston, serving during the year of 1882. In 1883 he was chosen a trustee of Peabody Education Fund, as well as the secretary of the Board, and has continued as such until the present time; and from 1885 to 1888 he was the acting general agent in the place of Dr. J. L. M. Curry, who had been appointed Minister to Spain.

Dr. Green has for twenty-four years been librarian of the Massachusetts Historical Society, in which position he has rendered valuable services. His researches as a historian have been extensive and his knowledge of New England history, especially, is broad and accurate. He occupies a leading place among the historians of today. He has been a member of the State Board of Health, Lunacy and Charity, and is now one of the Massachusetts Commissioners appointed under Chapter 60 of the Resolves of 1884, "to investigate the condition of the records, files, papers and documents in the State Department." From the year 1871 to 1891, he was one of the editors of the American Journal of Numismatics and he has lately been elected president of the Boston Numismatic Society.

He has been for many years chairman of the committee to save the Old South meeting-house, and was chosen, last year, one of a committee to examine the "Adams" bust at the State House. He delivered the Centennial address on the History of Medicine in Massachusetts in Sanders Theater, Cambridge, before the Massachusetts Medical Society on June 7, 1881. A collection of Frankliniana, together with a fund to increase the same, was given by him several years ago to the Boston Public Library.

The town of Groton recognizes in Dr. Green its historian. His publications of books and pamphlets relating to local

history have been numerous. The services which he has rendered to the town in collecting and preserving its annals are of inestimable value. July 4, 1876, he delivered at Groton the historical address in commemoration of the destruction of the town in May, 1676, and of the Declaration of Independence, July 4, 1776. He also delivered the historical address at the dedication of three monuments erected by the town, Feb. 20, 1880.

Among his publications may be mentioned "My Campaign in America," a journal kept by Count William de Deux Ponts, 1780-81, translated from the French MS. with an introduction and notes (Boston, 1868); "The Story of a Famous Book," an account of Dr. Benjamin Franklin's autobiography (Boston, 1871); "School Histories and Some Errors in Them" (Boston, 1872); "Epitaphs from the Old Burying Ground in Groton" (Boston, 1878); "Early Records of Groton, 1662-1678" (Groton, 1879); "History of Medicine in Massachusetts" (Boston, 1881); "Groton During the Indian Wars" (Groton, 1883); "Groton During the Witchcraft Times" (1883); "Boundary Lines of Groton" (Groton, 1885); "The Geography of Groton," prepared for the use of the Appalachian Mountain Club (1886); "Groton Historical Series," 1884-1892, three volumes; "An Account of the Physicians and Dentists of Groton" (1891); also "An Account of the Lawyers of Groton" (1892).

DAMAGED PHRASEOLOGY.

Man's soul is to his body as his thoughts are to the words in which he expresses them. Thoughts and words are so intimately connected that the cultivation and perfection of the word help to cultivate and perfect the thought. Of course there's many an idea which, by the pomposity of

its wording, makes itself appear great, and many a noble thought is lost or hidden beneath an outward tangle of etymological brushwood. But what should be sought for is not a voluminous vocabulary—for a superfluity of words is often worse than a lack—but an exact one. How rare and how refreshing the faculty of correct expression! Even though the thoughts are but dull and commonplace, it is a pleasure to hear them come forth easily and directly.

A great thought, ill expressed, is like a nobleman in beggar's clothing, and a poor thought, well expressed, like a tramp in a dress suit.

I once knew a lady whose vocabulary possessed but two adjectives, or if it had ever possessed more, they must have died long since for want of exercise. To her everything in the world was either "beautiful" or "horrid." Sermons, sunsets and apple pies were beautiful; murders, coffee without sugar, and caterpillars were horrid. How laughable, but how pitiable! What discrimination could she possibly make? Scarcely more than those of her dog. When that animal wished to express pleasure he wagged his tail and barked in a certain tone; and what more could this poor lady do than to smile and exclaim "Beautiful!" And her scowl and "Horrid" were equivalent to her dog's ruffled back and growl. And yet this is but an example of a class of which there are thousands.

Theodore Parker said, "A good many words in our language have been so misused that they must be relegated to the department of *"damaged phraseology."* This is excellent. Some words, indeed, are so tossed, banged, jostled, battered about and bruised by a merciless humanity that they become, as it were, mere pulps—weak, useless, empty, and finally dead. And truly they had better die than live to be used in such a worthless condition.